

## Felix Grundy to Andrew Jackson, November 20, 1828, from Correspondence of Andrew Jackson. Edited by John Spencer Bassett.

### FELIX GRUNDY TO JACKSON.

Nashville, November 20, 1828.

*Dear Sir,* Beleiving as I do, that it is the duty of your friends to communicate to you all facts and circumstances which will enable you to Judge of the state of parties correctly I proceed to inform you that, on this day I received a letter (not confidential) from Mr Wm H Crawford in which he says, "The state of Georgia cannot consistently with its feelings or character vote for Mr Calhoun or Mr Rush as Vicepresident etc." a determination to run Nathaniel Macon is then express,d and many things are said in his favor and a wish expressed, that his claims should be laid before our electoral college etc.<sup>1</sup>

1 Oct. 21, 1828, William H. Crawford wrote to Van Buren (Library of Congress, Van Buren MSS.) as follows:

*"My dear Sir* The State of Georgia cannot consistently with its feelings and character Vote for either Mr Calhoun or Mr Rush for vice President. I therefore have thought it right to bring forward a name which I hope is unobjectionable in every point of view. The Name of Nathaniel Macon is I presume above all exception. The nation by a kind of local consent has studiously avoided the discussion of the claims of individuals for the Vice President. I have approved of this course because I thought it improper to divert the attention of the public from the election of the President to a secondary object. The electors of the State of New York are I believe uncommitted by the State as to Vice President at least except as between Calhoun and Rush. If it were otherwise, I should think there would [be] no

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difficulty when the name of Mr Macon should be presented to them. I presume it will only be necessary to bring the name and claims of Mr Macon under the consideration of the electors to secure the suffrage for Mr Macon. You will I therefore hope my dear sir bring his claims and name distinctly into view or cause it to be done in the most impressive manner. Letters have been addressed to distinguished individuals in the states of the Union except New Hampshire Massachusetts Rhode Island Connecticut and Vermont, To obtain the co-operation of those States, And I confidently hope that success will crown the effort. I think no apprehension need be entertained that Genl Jackson will bring Calhoun into the cabinet if he should not be re-elected Vice President, the very fact that he is rejected by the people will be sufficient to keep him out of the Cabinet. I will myself cause representations to be made to Genl Jackson that will prevent his being taken into the cabinet of Genl Jackson. I will thank you to inform me as early as possible the probable result of the electoral election in New York. I am dear sir your friend and most obt servt"

This is a strange step, which will fail in its object. I shall answer Mr Crawford, stating that I consider our Electors pledged to vote for Calhoun by their declarations previous to the election. This movement shews, that dissention and discord will exist among those who have supported you and that at an early day, the present dominant party will be greatly divided among themselves, and in such manner, I fear as to give you much disquietude; Should a serious disagreement rise up, nothing will be easier than for the now defeated party to assume such an attitude as will enable them to govern the affairs of the Country upon your retiring from office—not that one of them can be elected, but your successor can be made indebted to them for their support, and of course, they will possess a great degree of influence and control over him.

What would most effectually prevent strife and contention and keep down a rising storm? It would be, in my opinion, a willingness on your part to continue in office a second term, or at least no avowal to the contrary. I had a strong wish to converse with you on the subject

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last named, but my continued absence from home will probably deprive me of seeing you before you leave this State for Washington. I wish you health and prosperity

yrs respectfully